UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.3/49/L.17
15 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 99

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, QUESTIONS RELATING TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

Jordan and Sudan: draft resolution

Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General, 1/ and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2/

Aware that the majority of the refugee population are children and women,

Bearing in mind that unaccompanied refugee minors are among the most vulnerable sectors of refugees who require special assistance and care,

Mindful of the fact that the ultimate solution to the plight of those unaccompanied minors is their reunification with their families,

Noting with satisfaction that the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees considered at its forty-fourth session an information note on refugee children, 3/ and that finalized

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1/ See A/49/411 and A/49/643.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/49/12) and A/49/12/Add.1.

3/ EC/SCP/81.

guidelines entitled "Refugee children: protection and care" were issued in May 1994,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the protection and assistance of refugees,

Highly convinced that the Convention on the Rights of Children 4/ represents a normative framework for action to protect and care for refugee children,

1. Expresses its deep concern at the plight of unaccompanied refugee minors and the lack of transparency as to their location;

2. Calls upon the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, all concerned United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to exert the maximum effort in expediting the reunification of the unaccompanied refugee minors with their families;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to mobilize resources commensurate to the needs for the reintegration of the unaccompanied refugee minors with their families;

4. Condemns the acts of exploiting the unaccompanied refugee minors as human shields and their recruitment for conscription in military insurgence, and any other acts that endanger their safety and personal security;

5. Calls upon the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund and other United Nations agencies to mobilize adequate assistance to unaccompanied minors in the areas of relief, education, health, psychological rehabilitation, etc.;

6. Requests all countries, in particular the host countries, and the United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to pay greater attention to the special needs of the unaccompanied refugee minors, in particular their protection and the preservation of their well-being;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

4/ Resolution 44/25.